

Sri PRABHAKAR TELKAR.—For question (e) it is stated that feasibility report for setting up a Cement Plant at Chitapur has been received. I want to know whether any action has been taken in this regard ?

Sri S. M. KRISHNA.—Yes. We have recommended to the Union Government that a Cement Plant with 4 Lakh Tonne capacity be set up at Chitapur in Gulbarga District because there is a big deposit of lime stone and it is economically cheap to set up a Cement Factory at Chitapur. With these recommendations we have made up a case and the Government of India is seriously considering issue of a letter of intent to set up a Cement Factory in Chitapur. The State Government have recommended the application of an industrialist on 8th February 1974 and we are hoping that a license will be issued for setting up the factory in Chitapur.

Sri PRABHAKAR TELKAR.—I want to know whether action has been taken on the staff who have delayed the matter ?

Sri S. M. KRISHNA.—I am in a position to answer that question as to who surveyed the Gulbarga District. If there is any lapse, action will be taken as per report.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕಾಗೋಡು ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪ.—ಅದು ವಾಲ್ಯೂಮಿನಸ್ ಆಗಿದೆ. It takes time to go through it.

*Re Payment of bills without receipt of certain furniture with Health Department.*

ಶ್ರೀ ಕಾಗೋಡು ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪ.—ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪರ್ಫಾರ್ಮೆನ್ಸ್ ಸರಬರಾಯಿ ಮಾಡದೇ ಹಣ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಗಮನವನ್ನು ಸೆಕೆಯಬಯಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದವೀರಪ್ಪ.—ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಹಿಂದೆ ಅಡ್ಮಿನಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಟಿವ್ ಮೋಷನ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದರು. ಆಗ ಜವಾಬು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ಈಗಲೂ ಅದೇ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಎತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಆಕೌಂಟ್ಸ್ ಕಮಿಟಿ ಇದೆ, ಎಸ್ಟಿಮೇಟ್ಸ್ ಕಮಿಟಿ ಇದೆ, ನಮ್ಮಲ್ಲಿ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಕಾಗದ ಇದೆ ಬೇಕಾದರೆ ನೋಡಲಿ ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಏನು ಅನುಮಾನ ಬಂದಿದೆಯೋ ನನಗಂತೂ ಗೊತ್ತಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್. ಡಿ. ದೇವೇಗೌಡ.—ಅವರ ಅನುಮಾನ ಏನು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಪರಿಚ್ಛೇದ ಮಾಡಿ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದವೀರಪ್ಪ.—ಇದ್ದರೆ ತಾನೆ ಪರಿಚ್ಛೇದ ಮಾಡುವುದು ?

If you permit me, I will make a brief statement. As a matter of fact, this file was initiated at my instance. The department has slept over. They did not know that money was available for the purchase of this furniture and other things. When I went to Delhi once in December 1972, I found sufficient money was available and our department had not utilised it. When I came back on 5th December 1972, I sent a minute as to why this money

had not been utilised and then I asked the authorities concerned. *i.e.*, the man in charge of it—to immediately enter into touch with the authorities concerned and find out how these things can be purchased, because the time at our disposal was very short. By the end of March we should have utilised the amount fully; otherwise, it would lapse. Then he contacted the Executive Engineer, Buildings Division, Bangalore and wanted to know wherefrom and what are the firms that can supply them. All those records are here. The correspondence is also here. They gave certain Company's name. Then he contacted the S.P.D. There also he contacted the firms that are available. Then he contacted the Central Agency and wanted to know whether they are in a position to supply this furniture. They said: 'We have heavy demands, we cannot make any supply. Then, under a notification, quotations were issued, as is admissible under the P.W.D. Code. Afterwards, because the time at our disposal was very short, I told them they must make use of the money. Afterwards, quotations were called for. Then, those quotations were examined by the High Power Committee constituted by the Government, which consists of the Commissioner and Secretary, Health Department as the Chairman. — The Commissioner and Secretary, Industries Department, and the Secretary, Finance Department. These three are important officers that are there in the High Power Committee. They have examined all these tenders and then they brought it to my notice. This is what I ordered on 13th March 1973. I will read from the file. It is as follows:—

"As a Very Special Case, I am approving this. Hereafter when these purchases are sought to be made, it is essential to take prior Government Order before orders are issued."

Because, by that time, the time was running out. Further I have said:

"As the Secretary pleads that the funds should not be allowed to lapse, I am agreeing to this as a special case."

That is what I said on 13th March 1973. Subsequently, in another case, I examined all these things. I passed an order on 14th June 1973. This is what I said:

"I find the proceedings of the Special Meeting of the High Power Committee held on 24th May 1973 having been finalised, the Chairman of the High Power Committee and Commissioner for Health has scored off his signature."

(ಶ್ರೀ ಎಚ್. ಸಿದ್ದೇಶ್ವರಪ್ಪ)

That is what that man—the previous Commissioner did. I don't know why this has been done. I said: 'Let the present Commissioner and Secretary to Government H. and M.A. examine the proceedings and let me know whether the proceedings are correct.' That is what I wanted to know. "If it is not correct, he may again call for a meeting of the High Power Committee and finalise it. There are two files with, regard to the providing of furniture, to the Family Planning Welfare Centres, Sub-Centres, District Family Planning Bureau, etc., from the Government of India assistance. Let the Commissioner and Secretary H. and M. A. examine and advise me as to the suitable action that should be taken."

Then, the present Commissioner examined it and he again called for a meeting of the High Power Committee and they examined and came to the conclusion that what the purchases are to be made are correct. I am saying all this in detail to show and impress that the Minister has acted only on the advice of the High Power Committee, consisting of the senior most Secretaries of the Government. Afterwards, these orders were passed. I can only say all these things have been done *bona fide*, in the interest of the department.

This money comes from the Government of India. There are nearly 1773 SubCentres, which had no tables and no furniture of any sort. In order to furnish them this money was utilised. I would only plead with my friend Mr. Kagodu Thimmappa. I am very glad he has raised this. So far as I am concerned, I am not a man to put my signature on dotted lines or blindly. I have examined it. I have done it. Even now, if you feel, I have no objection. Let all these papers be examined by the Public Accounts Committee. I only plead with him. If anything shady is to be found I would be the first man to sack my officers, whoever they are. I don't deny it; they certainly did it. I don't say that everything is perfect there. As a matter of fact many things have come to my notice. I want to see that things are set right. Therefore, I plead with him. So far as this is concerned, he has done a service to me and to the department in having brought it to my notice. I can assure him with all the sincerity at my command nothing untoward has happened so far as this transaction is concerned and to the best of my ability everything proper has been done.

**SRI KAGODU THIMMAPPA.**—The Hon. Minister has agreed it can be gone through by PAC That is well and good. Certain officers have to be sacked for these things. In 1972-73 the only agency was Vidyut Engineering Company. In 1973 the only agency was Mysore Trishul

Company. ಅವರದೇ ಲೋಯಸ್‌ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಗಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಸಿಗಬೇಕಾದರೆ Unless the man who is dealing with the transaction has colluded with that agency it will not be possible.

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—I got the information from the P.W.D. Buildings Division. This is the All India agency and are the people that supply to the P.W.D. If now what he wants has to be examined, I can only say that hereafter open tenders may be called for. Here, in this case, what happened was, time was running out. If orders were not placed, the amount would lapse. That is what exactly the office people do. They bring the file only on the last day. Either we should say 'leave it' or 'take it' I have issued sufficient warning. I warned them this may lead to lending colour to that if these people give. Hereafter open tenders may be called for and not sealed quotations.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕಾಗೋಡು ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪ.—ನಿನ್ನ ರೆಂಕೋ ವಿಷಯ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಇವರ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಡೈರೆಕ್ಟರ್ ಆಫೀಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ 6 ತಿಂಗಳು, ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷ ಆಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಕೂಡ ಮೆಡಿಸನ್ ಸರಬರಾಯಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಯಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಹಣ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ 28-3-1973ರಲ್ಲಿ ಫರ್ನಿಚರ್ ಬಂದಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ 30-3-1973ರಲ್ಲಿ ದುಡ್ಡು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ. If the Department is sincere like this in every case, I will touch your feet.

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—I entirely agree with you. ಫರ್ನಿಚರ್ ಬಾರದೇ ದುಡ್ಡು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದನ್ನು ನಾನು ನೋಡಿದೆ. ಫರ್ನಿಚರ್ ಬಂದಮೇಲೆ ಅದರ ಮೂರನೇ ದಿವಸ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ ರ್ಯಾಪ್ಸ್ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ದುಡ್ಡು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ. As I have told House, they could have done it much earlier.

If I had not opened my eyes, all these money would have been lapsed.

9-30 A.M.

Sri KAGODU THIMMAPPA.—So far as that aspect is concerned, I do not disagree with the hon. Minister but the thing is that on the face of the record, I feel that there is still fishy in the dealings with the concerned parties because the parties and agencies are same for two years.

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—I agree with the hon. Member. I acted because the High power Committee okayed it.

Sri H. D. DEVE GOWDA.—The hon. Member must compliment the hon. Minister.

Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—Alright I will place every piece of paper from A to Z. You can examine them.

MADAM SPEAKER.—The Question Hour is over.